



CoastalPlain\_EIS, BLM\_AK &lt;blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_eis@blm.gov&gt;

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**[EXTERNAL] Input to Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS**1 message

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villiers1@frontier.com &lt;villiers1@frontier.com&gt;

Sun, Jun 3, 2018 at 11:00 AM

To: blm\_ak\_coastalplain\_EIS@blm.gov

I am writing to encourage the Bureau of Land Management to NOT open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration.

There are multiple reasons against allowing oil and gas exploration in ANWR, including:

- The United States should invest our energy R&D in areas such as solar, wind, battery-storage capabilities and other emerging technologies so that we do not fall further behind competitors in China and Europe in developing energy resources vital to our future economic growth,
- The inevitable environmental effects of developing roads, drilling pads and other infrastructure necessary to tap ANWR's petroleum reserves.

Yet, perhaps the strongest case against opening ANWR to oil and gas exploration involves pure economics. As a result of advances in hydraulic fracturing technology, the United States enjoys an over-abundance of low-cost oil and gas. The cost of developing new wells in the artic – and creating the infrastructure to move resources from ANWR to the continental United States – simply cannot compete with the economics of relying on existing sources.

Opening ANWR to exploration would be expensive, short-sided and not in the best interest of creating an energy policy that helps America remain economically strong in the future.

Sincerely

Chris Villiers

23630 3<sup>rd</sup> Place West, Bothell, WA 98021

P.S. Copies of this letter are being provided to my congressional representatives, Sens. Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray, and Rep. Suzan DelBene.